

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for introducing a drag reducer into a fluid stream comprising admixing the components of a drag reducer to form an incipient drag reducer and injecting the incipient drag reducer into the fluid stream wherein the drag reducer components are admixed at the site of the fluid stream.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the fluid stream is in a pipeline.
- 10 3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the fluid stream is a hydrocarbon stream.
4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the hydrocarbon stream is the product of passing a hydrocarbon stream from a geological formation through a desalter.
- 15 5. The method of Claim 3 wherein the hydrocarbon stream is the product of passing a hydrocarbon stream from a geological formation through a dehydrator.
6. The method of Claim 3 wherein the hydrocarbon stream is the product of passing a hydrocarbon stream from a geological formation through a desalter and dehydrator.
- 20 7. The method of Claim 1 wherein the incipient drag reducer is prepared by admixing at least two components wherein the materials of the drag reducer formulation are divided between the at least two components.
- 25 8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the at least two components can be admixed in varying ratios to produce an incipient drag reducer having varying properties.
9. The method of Claim 8 wherein the incipient drag reducer is injected at varying rates.

30

10. The method of Claim 8 wherein the ratio of the drag reducer components is varied according to the properties of the fluid stream.

11. The method of Claim 9 wherein the rate of injection of drag reducer is varied  
5 according to the rate of flow of the fluid flow stream.

12. The method of Claim 7 wherein the drag reducer is prepared by admixing two components.

10 13. The method of Claim 12 wherein first drag reducer component is an aluminum monocarboxylate in a hydrocarbon solvent, made from a fatty acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms and the second drag reducer component is a carboxylic acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms.

15 14. The method of Claim 12 wherein first drag reducer component is an aluminum dicarboxylate in a hydrocarbon solvent, made from a fatty acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms and the second drag reducer component is a carboxylic acid having from 6 to 54 carbon atoms.

20 15. The method of Claim 1 wherein the drag reducer components are admixed at sub-ambient temperatures.

16. The method of Claim 1 wherein the drag reducer components are admixed at supra-ambient temperatures.

25 17. An apparatus for introducing a drag reducer into a fluid stream comprising at least two sources of drag reducing components, at least two metering devices for combining a predetermined ratio of the drag reducing components, at least one mixing device, and at least one exit from the at least one mixing device.

18. The apparatus of Claim 17 wherein the apparatus additionally comprises a computer as a local controller.

19. The apparatus of Claim 17 wherein the controller is a SENTRY SYSTEM.

5

20. The apparatus of Claim 17 wherein at least one flow meter is a positive displacement flow meter.